

August 17, 2016

TO: ALL POTENTIALLY INTERESTED PARTIES:

RE: City of Cameron (DWSRF Project No. 62695 – Water Treatment Plant and Distribution System Improvements)

The attached document is being provided for your information. This is not a permit application. No action is being requested from your agency and no response is required.

The attached document is an environmental determination issued by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for a proposed project to be funded through the TWDB. Pursuant to the environmental assessment requirements of 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 371, Subchapter E, the Executive Administrator of the TWDB has determined that the proposed action described in the attached documents may be exempted from formal environmental review requirements. A review by TWDB staff included a consideration of potential environmental impacts and permitting requirements. If there were any concerns about particular regulations or permits, the appropriate regulatory agency would have been contacted for clarification, and this would be described in the attached environmental determination.

Comments regarding this determination may be submitted to the Director of Regional Water Planning and Development, TWDB, P.O. Box 13231, Austin, Texas 78711-3231.

August 17, 2016

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS:

In accordance with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) environmental review process established at 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 371, Subchapter E, for projects to be funded through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program and consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S. Code § 4321, *et seq.*, the Executive Administrator of the TWDB has determined that the proposed action identified below may be exempted from formal environmental review requirements:

City of Cameron, Milam County, Texas

Water Treatment Plant and Distribution System Improvements

DWSRF Project No. 62695

Total TWDB Commitment: \$9,305,000 (L1000517); \$2,680,175 (LF1000534)

The City of Cameron (City) is proposing to use funding from a DWSRF Program loan and principal forgiveness for the planning, design, and construction phases required to implement improvements to the City's water treatment plant (WTP) and distribution system. Specifically, the City plans: (1) to conduct improvements to the existing WTP, and (2) to replace aging or dilapidated distribution lines throughout the City's service area. In addition, the project will require adequate valves, pumps, SCADA system improvements, electrical system improvements, and all necessary appurtenances, including pavement repairs.

Existing lines will be replaced by new lines in proximate locations and existing lines will be abandoned in place. Environmental impacts should be similar to rehabilitation activities and limited to those associated with excavation, pipe installation, and road repair. A desktop analysis of the Texas Historic Sites Atlas revealed the presence of Historical Markers, Cemeteries, and National Register Properties within the proposed project area. Coordination with the Texas Historical Commission (THC) was requested by the TWDB for this project. The THC provided a response on March 16, 2016, that no significant cultural resource sites were identified within the project area and that the project may proceed.

The City is proposing to use directional boring to replace aging and or dilapidated distribution lines at creek crossings. Therefore, the project will not adversely impact wetlands or waters of the U.S. that are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In addition,

construction within existing rights-of-ways and easements is not expected to impact threatened or endangered species or habitat.

This decision is allowed because the specified project elements should not entail significant adverse impacts to the quality of the human environment. Documentation supporting this determination is on file at the TWDB.

This determination may be rescinded if:

- (1) The project no longer meets the requirements for a CE as a result of changes in the project;
- (2) The project involves extraordinary circumstances as defined in 31 TAC Section 371.41;
or
- (3) The project may violate or has violated federal, state, local, or tribal laws.

The project also must comply with the following standard emergency conditions:

- Standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources; and,
- Standard emergency condition for the discovery of threatened and endangered species.

Comments regarding this determination may be submitted to the Director of Regional Water Planning and Development, Texas Water Development Board, P.O. Box 13231, Austin, Texas 78711-3231.

